

# Falcon Flyer



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## Father's Day Every Day for Dobbins' Dads

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# FROM THE TOP

## Been on a good team lately?

**Lt. Col. Chip Whitehead**  
94th AW Civil Engineering Squadron

Behind every good leader is a great team. Have you ever wondered why your team hasn't quite meshed yet? The team may not be firing on all cylinders, but trust me, the ingredients are there. It all boils down to what stage of development your team is in.

I'm a big fan of leadership, and I'm a bigger fan of teamwork. As Airmen, we all are familiar with our Air Force core values of Integrity, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do. We are all part of the Air Force team.

Teamwork comes into play with these core values. Teamwork enhances these core values and instills unity and pride. Whether it is the 94th Airlift Wing, squadron, or individual shop, we comprise a team.

Throughout my Air Force career, I've had the opportunity to learn about teamwork and the stages of team development.

My favorite team development model is from Bruce Tuckman. In the mid-1960s, Mr. Tuckman defined the team development stages of Forming, Storming, Norming, and Performing.

Through these stages of team development, a team works through trust, communication, organization, and collaboration.

As long as the team has a common mission, all teams have the capability of creating and sustaining a winning team.

Tuckman determined that whether a team chooses its members or is grouped together by



a higher authority, the four stages are inevitable and even necessary for a team to grow, accomplish goals, and deliver results.

Forming is the first stage of team building and is named as such because it is in this stage that the team members meet, learn about opportunities and challenges and begin to set goals.

Team members often behave independently, can be hesitant and typically remain on their best behavior as they get a feel for their team. An example of this would be a unit getting a new First Sergeant, a team getting a new supervisor, or a shop getting a new Airman. The team is determining the boundaries and deciding formal and informal roles. In this stage, the leader is looked upon for guidance and

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# Wield concern for two-wheelers

**Courtesy Story**  
94th AW Safety

Operating a motor vehicle, especially on public roads, is not a passive activity but a complex task that involves more than just knowing how to use the accelerator, brakes and steering. Motor vehicle operators require visual, cognitive and motor skills.

In the figure here, these three distinct skills are transformed into three easily understood terms: Search, Evaluate, Execute.



Photo previously taken from Basic Rider Coach training course which took place at the Dead Runway here at Dobbins The safety office here encourages all drivers to “SEE” while on the road in an effort to prevent and avoid motorcycle accidents. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Travon Dennis)

from the interaction of those factors; and Execute refers to the physical motor skills used to prevent or avoid the

to the driving/riding task in and of itself.

The SEE process is applicable not only to the operation of any type of motor vehicle, but can work equally well as a risk-management strategy for bicyclists or even pedestrians interacting within a motor vehicle environment.

### Motorcycle Safety Foundation’s Key Messages:

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation has its own outline of key messages for drivers, with an eye toward protecting one particular vulnerable party -- motorcyclists:

Look For Motorcyclists -- Use your eyes and

mirrors to see what's around, and check the blind spots when you're changing lanes or turning at intersections. Look, and look again.

Focus on Driving -- Hang up the phone, put down the MP3 player, settle the passengers, and drive.

Use Your Turn Signals -- Signal your intentions for everyone's safety.

Give Two-Wheelers Some Room -- Don't tailgate or pass too closely.

Take Your Time - Nothing is as important as the safety of your loved ones, yourself, and the others with whom you share the road.



Search means to actively scan and identify factors that could create increased risk; Evaluate means to consider potential problems arising

resulting hazards.

An additional benefit of the three terms is that they form an acronym -SEE- that is easy to remember and is relevant



# Comfort after combat

**Senior Airman Christina Bozeman**  
94th AW Public Affairs



U.S. Air Force Photo/Brad Fallin

In December 2003, 12 seamstresses sat around a dining room table in Minneapolis wondering how they could be of service to military members. One of the lady's sons was a servicemember who had been wounded overseas; he was in need of pants that would fit over his fixation device on his leg. Soon thereafter, her son came to her with friends in need with similar situations. For the sole purpose of ease and comfort, Sew Much Comfort (SMC) was created out of pure necessity.

SMC specializes in adaptive clothing which gives the service member and medical personnel easy and quick access to their injuries. To meet the needs of the injured servicemembers, the clothing is made to look as normal as possible at no cost. Since 2004, SMC has provided 30,000 pieces of clothing to military members in the U.S. and overseas.

Volunteer seamstresses and

monetary donations are what make Sew Much Comfort able to exist and do what they do. There are seven ladies here who volunteer for this organization, and they meet at least once a month. All donations received at the thrift shop here are sent to the SMC headquarters. "We feel very fortunate for the donations because we couldn't do this without them," Ann Groskreutz, a SMC seamstress said. "Everyone here at Dobbins has been very supportive."

Mark Briley, the owner of Ashby Sewing Company in Kennesaw, Ga. performs maintenance as quickly as possible for free since the machines are utilized so much the ladies bring them in for repair. He has been volunteering his time and donating parts for the machines for the past three or four years. Mark who hails from a military family explained, "I feel like this is the least I could do for as much as the military does for this country." Mrs. Ann said, "This is his way of giving back."

This organization does not only rely on charitable donations. There are over 2,000 volunteers who span the U.S. that contribute to Sew Much Comfort donating their time and expertise. To make sure military members have the best fitting garments, the volunteers even go so far as to take money out of their own pockets to aid the organization's mission. Since 2004, the volunteer seamstresses here at Dobbins have sewn over 800 pairs of pants.

After seven years, the SMC is growing and still going strong, providing adaptive clothing to support the unique needs of injured service members of all military branches at home in the U.S. and abroad. Like the soldiers commitment to defending our country, the ladies of Sew Much Comfort commit their own time and knowledge putting care into every stitch they sew. If it's possible to make the life of a wounded soldier easier, then that's what Sew Much Comfort will continue to do.



U.S. Air Force Photo/Brad Fallin

# FEATURE STORY



*"The most memorable moment as a father was the day I held Emma for the first time and the warmth and happiness she brought me." -Master Sgt. D.J. Paserba, 94th AW ASTS*



*"The single greatest moment a father experiences is the day their child is born. I have had many memorable experiences as a father over the last nine months, but none of it would be possible without that first day." -Technical Sgt. Seth Richards, 94th AW Maintenance Squadron*

## Father's Day every day for Dobbins' Dads

**Senior Airman Christina Bozeman and Senior Airman Danielle Campbell**

94th AW Public Affairs

Father's Day is a day to celebrate and pay tribute to fathers and father figures alike. It is said that Father's Day was originally created to complement Mother's Day. Regardless, Father's Day has been recognized by many people for many years and is a day in which numerous countries all over the world take part.

Father's Day was not permanently made a national holiday in the United States until Richard Nixon did so in 1972.

Although it may be celebrated on different dates, the influence of fathers in our lives is recognized and will always be honored worldwide.





*"Every moment of being a father has been memorable, like when I cut my son's umbilical cord or when I held him for the first time. Now its just amazing to watch him grow up and to see him mimic everything I do." -Staff Sgt. Brandon Johnson, 94th AW Security Forces*



*My most memorable moments as a father have been when my daughter was born and when I finally got a son... my mini-me. -Technical Sgt. Earle Hughes, 94th AW Communications Squadron.*



*There is so much joy that comes along with the responsibility of being a father plus, when we teach our children, we are teaching our children's children. -Staff Sgt. Aaron Abshire, 80th Aerial Port Squadron*



# Security forces show their stuff

**Brad Fallin**  
94th AW Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Sean Walker, 94th Airlift Wing Security Forces Squadron, talks with students and parents about the Air Force small arms on display for Academy Day 2011 at Dobbins ARB. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Brad Fallin)



# Bare Bones

**Brad Fallin**  
94 AW Public Affairs

Dobbins has been tracking the progression of the new canopy that is being constructed at the main gate off of Cobb Parkway. One of the purposes of the canopy is for Dobbins to come in standard with other military facilities. Another purpose is to shelter the guards from the weather. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Brad Fallin)





# Air Force leaders issue summer safety message

## Courtesy Story

Air Force Reserve Command

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Secretary of the Air Force, Michael Donley, Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. Norton Schwartz and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force, James A. Roy send the following Critical Days of Summer safety campaign message to the Airmen of the U.S. Air Force and their families:

Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day marks the season of greatest risks for our Air Force team. To counter those risks, we have

kicked off the Critical Days of Summer safety campaign for 2011 on May 28th.

Unfortunately, last summer we lost 16 Airmen. While this was an improvement over the 21 lost the previous year, we must strive to do better. The 2011 Air Force goal is zero preventable mishaps and fatalities.

The leading causes of preventable fatalities during the Critical Days of Summer are off-duty private motor vehicle mishaps and drowning.

We therefore

emphasize the importance of fastening seatbelts, driving at reasonable speeds and avoiding situations of driving while distracted, under the influence, fatigued or otherwise impaired. While participating in aquatic activities, we also strongly urge the use of proper equipment such as personal flotation devices and avoiding hazardous areas and dangerous water conditions.

We challenge all Airmen to make this year safer than last. Be each other's wingman, use risk management

principles, both on and off duty and exercise sound judgment. We encourage each of you to invest a high level of commitment in taking care of one another. Our most important objective for this summer's campaign is protecting military and civilian personnel and their families.

Enjoy the summer months ahead, be a good wingman and be safe. Thank you for your service and all that you do for our Air Force and our nation.

# Dobbins Air traffic control tower 70% complete!

## Courtesy Story

94 AW Public Affairs

The new Air Traffic Control Tower, nearing its final stages of completion at 70 percent, is environmentally-built using the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design specifications.

It stands 100-feet-tall and encompasses nearly 7,000 square feet and includes an elevator. The old tower is 40 years old and 60-feet-tall with less than 2,400 square feet and no elevator.

Other advantages of the new tower include improved visibility, more efficient HVAC system and the addition of offices and meeting rooms.

The new rotating light beacon is located behind Building 747. The old tower will be demolished and the old beacon will be removed.



Construction of Dobbins Air Reserve Base air traffic control tower continues with 70 percent of the project completed. August 2011 is the scheduled operation of the new control tower. It stands 100-feet-tall and encompasses nearly 7,000 square feet and includes an elevator. The old tower is 40 years old and 60-feet-tall with less than 2,400 square feet and no elevator. (Photo by Aerial Innovations of Georgia, Inc.)

# AROUND THE AIR FORCE

## Reservists get down and dirty

**2nd Lt. Denise Hauser and Lt. Lori Fiorello**

446th AW Public Affairs

McChord Field -- Cold. Wet. Dirty. Face first in the mud is the perfect way to spend a rainy Pacific Northwest morning.

Eight Reservists from the 446th Airlift Wing got down and dirty Saturday in the 6th Annual 5K Mud Run sponsored by Joint Base Lewis-McChord Morale Welfare and Recreation Center at Lewis Main.

"I organized the team to show that fitness can be fun," said Master Sgt. Shannon Mehalik, a self-inspection program manager with the 86th

Aerial Port Squadron. "I did the run because I love fitness and it is a great way to stay in shape."

The run started with participants pounding the pavement for about a mile, and then led into the woods where the fun began. They trekked through the mud, ran up and downhill, got sprayed with water cannons and crawled over and under logs. At one point, there was a high-jump mat where many did the "leap of faith" trying to jump over the mat. Some cleared, some landed in the middle, and some bounced off and landed on their face.

"I want to show the unit that there is more to

fitness than just push-ups, sit-ups and running a mile and a half," said Master Sgt. Derek Abdella, the non-commissioned officer in charge of training for the 86th Aerial Port Squadron. "I did the run to have fun with my friends at the same time staying in shape."

The last obstacle was the low crawl through some wet sticky mud. It was like a scene straight out of "Swamp Thing" as the runners came across the finish line, some with both shoes on while others had one swallowed up in the thick mud.

"People pay good money at the spa to be covered in mud and we were able to do something fun like this as an

alternative form of PT," said 2nd Lt. Lori Fiorello, a public affairs officer on the 446th AW wing staff.

It may have only been a 5K but after running uphill on close to 90 degree incline hills only to find a mud pit or other obstacle on the other side, it felt like a marathon.

Running and crawling through freezing cold mud first thing in the morning sure puts the "f" back into fitness.

These Reservists represented the wing and shined in a sea of mud.

According to Capt. Vanessa Balint, Unit Fitness Program Manager, the 446th AW is the number one wing in Air Force Reserve Command for the best fitness scores.



"AHHHHH!!!" cry the muddy warriors of the 446th Airlift Wing after running the 6th Annual Down and Dirty Mud Run last month. They ran through the river, and through the woods. They did not stop at grandma's house but dove face first in the mud instead. (U.S. Air Force photo/2nd Lt. Denise Hauser)



# *In Memory Of*

## MASTER SERGEANT CALHOON

First and foremost I have to say MSgt Calhoon was an AIRMAN. He served for many years on active duty before coming into the AFRC to work with the 94th ASTS.

I was a new Captain in Logistics when Ricky Calhoon first arrived at the 94th. I asked (then) TSgt Calhoon about his past experience and was excited to hear of his wealth of knowledge and capabilities. He became my NCIOC of BioMed with SSgt Edenfield (who arrived on the same UTA) and soon to come SRA Arce.

Sergeant Calhoon and Sergeant Edenfield were quickly dubbed as the "Twin Towers" because of their size, but also known as work horses

because of their example of getting things done. My new BioMed group were good Airmen and instantly became great friends.

IFF is a technology that is used in air traffic control radar beacon system to allow military users to quickly differentiate between allied and unknown or enemy weapon systems platforms. It seemed that when anyone met MSgt Calhoon, their IFF immediately indicated FRIEND.

Sergeant Calhoon hit the ground running in the 94th ASTS and became a RESCUER by playing a major part in our success for an ORI and ORE. He went to

Pittsburgh in May 2009, Gulfport MS in Sept and Dec 2009. He went above and beyond his responsibilities during those exercises.

This week with a heavy heart after I received the news I look online and read "God bless you Ricky. Your quiet strength was an inspiration to those around you" and "Ricky was a very kind person, great neighbor and a wonderful family man. The Supra family will miss him. God Bless his family".

CALHOON thank you for sharing your life with me. I appreciate your kindness, assistance, dedication, and service to this country that we both so love. Sincerely, your friend Capt Forster.



Courtesy photos submitted in memory of Master Sgt. Calhoon.

# TOUCH AND GO's

94th AIRLIFT WING  
PRESENTS  
*Dining Out*

THE RITZ CARLTON

The Ritz Carlton, Buckhead  
3434 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30326  
October 1, 2011 • 1730 - 2330  
Military: Mens Dress/Semi-Formal Dress Ladies: Cocktail Formal Evening Attire  
For Tickets please contact: SMSgt Joy Hughes 678165514000  
Call: Col/MSG/0511 or Helix - 175 Mgt/MSG/Sgt/059-057 - 551 SAAB/056-055 - 525

## Prime Rib and Shortcake Bar!

The Consolidated Club is offering an evening of fine dining and dancing June 24. Let our experienced staff pamper you during dinner. Afterwards, enjoy dancing to the sounds of one of Atlanta's premier DJ's. Our Prime Rib and Shortcake Bar is a great place for friends and family. Call the Club at 770-427-5551 for reservations.

## myPay Mobile

Users of myPay now can check pay statements on the go using a smartphone or other mobile device that has a web browser.

This update for myPay, the online pay account management system for service members, military retirees and many federal civilian employees, is based on customer feedback received through phone calls, Facebook and email, according to Defense Finance and Accounting Services officials.

To begin using myPay on a mobile device, authorized myPay customers must go to <https://mypay.dfas.mil> on their smartphone or other mobile device's web browser. Once there, customers can log in to myPay using the same login identification and password they use on their computer.

Automatically myPay will detect that the customer is using a mobile device and load a mobile version of the site. The myPay home page, login, leave and earning statements, and retiree account statements have been optimized for smartphones, and key account information is presented in an easy-to-read format.

"The login procedure and account statements have been designed to appear in a mobile-friendly format when users access myPay on their smart phones," said Jan Wittry, a DFAS public affairs specialist. "Users should be able to make changes to their accounts by selecting 'Main' in the upper right corner of the screen, but they may have to scroll from right to left or up and down, because other portions of the site were not designed for mobile devices."

For assistance with myPay, customers can call the customer care center weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. EST at 888-332-7411.

(Courtesy of the Defense Finance and Accounting Services public affairs)

## Volunteers Needed



- Escorts
- Narrators
- Proffers
- Sign Language Interpreters

Looking for an opportunity to get more involved on base?

Well protocol is seeking volunteers to serve as escorts, narrators, proffers and sign language interpreters during ceremonies and events.

Dobbins hosts several ceremonies and events each UTA and you could help to make each one memorable.

Contact Protocol  
MSGT Travon Dennis x4796  
[travon.dennis@us.af.mil](mailto:travon.dennis@us.af.mil)